FOREST HISTORY NEWSLETTER

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Oral history as obtained through the tape-recorded interview continues to be a major part of the Forest History Foundation's program. Featuring this aspect of its work, the Foundation will have an exhibit at the Pacific Logging Congress in Seattle, October 30-November 1, 1957. While the Congress is in session, Elwood Maunder, director of the Foundation, has arranged to conduct a series of tape interviews relating to the history of fire control and prevention, logging methods, and logging machinery with men who are pioneers and specialists in each field.

A noteworthy addition to the Foundation's store of interviews has been made by W. H. Hutchinson, Chico, California. Acting for the Foundation, Hutchinson interviewed William Laughead, Susanville, who originally published the Paul Bunyan tales for the Red River Lumber Company of Westwood, California. The tapes contain Laughead's own explanation of the Paul Bunyan story, and his reminiscences of old-time logging and lumbering in Minnesota and California.

Bruce Harding who is now "field-tripping" in the New York-New England area also has lined up several tape interviews. One of Bruce's interviews will be with Ralph S. Hosmer, emphasizing especially Hosmer's work in Hawaii. During this past summer, Bruce recorded interviews with Len Costley of International Falls, Minnesota, and J. A. Mathieu, Rainy River Lumber Company, Fort Francis, Ontario, and arranged for other interviews in Wisconsin and Minnesota this winter.

RECORDS REPORT--The papers of Colonel William B. Greeley have been placed in the library of the University of Oregon at Eugene by the Greeley family. Included are diaries, manuscripts of speeches and magazine articles, memos, statements, and some 5000 letters dating from 1929 to 1955. Some of the material is from the files of the West Coast Lumbermen's Association which turned over to the family such of the Colonel's papers as were in its files. Dr. Martin Schmitt, University of Oregon's manuscripts curator, would like to locate additional Greeley correspondence to augment the collection. If you have any, or know of any, he would be pleased to hear from you.

Lucille Kane, manuscripts curator of the Minnesota Historical Society, reports that 2 boxes and 30 volumes of records of the Bovey-DeLaittre Lumber Company, Minneapolis, are processed and ready for use. They comprise labor, land, and logging contracts, ledgers, journals, daybooks, and some correspondence.

According to Dr. Robert S. Maxwell, director of the Bureau of East Texas Research, Stephen F. Austin State College, work on the Kurth papers has been going ahead and the collection will be moved into the new State College library this fall.

A small collection of reports relating to timber and land made in connection with surveys for the Northern Pacific Railroad by George H. and Fred Plummer were recently turned over to the Washington State College library at Pullman by the Minnesota Historical Society. Originally placed in the MHS manuscripts department by the Forest History Foundation, the collection was turned over to WSC because of its greater importance to western Washington and the Pacific Northwest.

HARDWOOD HISTORY-- The Indiana Hardwood Lumbermen's Association is interested in collecting materials and information pertaining to lumbering and sawmilling in Indiana and the adjacent hardwoods area. Eventually the Association would like to get a history of the region written. Anyone who can supply historical data is urged to get in touch with Roy C. Brundage, secretary of the Association, at the Horticulture Building, Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana.

LUMBERJACK LORE--For more than 25 years, Dr. E. C. Beck, Central Michigan College, Mount Pleasant, has been collecting the songs and stories of the lumberjacks. Getting his material directly from the men of the woods, "Doc" Beck has traveled from coast to coast and border to border. His collections (two of which, SONGS OF THE MICHIGAN LUMBERJACKS and LORE OF THE LUMBER-CAMPS, are out of print) have been published by the University of Michigan Press. His latest volume THEY KNEW PAUL BUNYAN (November 1956) stresses the Great Lakes region.

WEST VIRGINIA--O. D. Lambert, historical records specialist at West Virginia University, Morgantown, who has ferreted out and brought into the University's archives many of the records of West Virginia's forest industries, is beginning work on a history of the industries. Mr. Lambert, in his own words, helped "to cut the forests and manufacture them into lumber" and hence has an "intimate knowlege of the thought, manners and customs of the woodsmen." Anyone who can provide further information or knows the whereabouts of available records should write Mr. Lambert.

50TH ANNIVERSARY--Our congratulations to the Faculty of Forestry of the University of Toronto, Canada's first professional forestry school, on the celebration of its fiftieth anniversary, October 25.

PIKE-POLES AND PEAVEYS--Interest in collecting the colorful materials associated with the life and work of the lumberman is growing apace. At Flint, Michigan, where FLINT JUNIOR COLLEGE plans an historical museum, Dr. Robert H. Van Bolt would be pleased to hear from anyone who could help locate objects reminiscent of Flint's importance as a lumbering center.

At the UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON, plans are in progress for a forest industries museum. Don Clark of the Institute of Forest Products is working with the Hoo-Hoo Club of Seattle in developing the project. The Hoo-Hoos are not only sponsoring the museum, but expect to actively assist in locating and collecting materials for it.

The IDAHO HISTORICAL SOCIETY, Boise, is also looking to the collection of its forestry and forest industries' history. Museum objects, photographs, personal letters and memoirs, diaries, and business records are all being sought to provide a permanent and fruitful source for study by scholars of Idaho's history.

HISTORYLAND at Hayward, Wisconsin, operated by Tony Wise, offers the tourist a visit to an Indian village and an old-time logging camp. A feature of the exhibit is an old gear-driven Lima logging engine.

The W. J. MCCREADY LUMBER COMPANY, Forest Grove, Oregon, has been collecting various kinds of log transporting vehicles. William McCready writes that the company would like to locate a locomotive to go with some cars they have obtained from the old Sumpter Valley Line in eastern Oregon which started out as a logging and gold mining line.

TIMBER TERMS--L. G. Sorden (Ag. Extension Service, University of Wisconsin)

and Isabel J. Ebert (Tomahawk, Wisconsin) have published an interesting booklet on logging terminology. LOGGER'S WORDS OF YESTERDAY, a dictionary of some 1200 words common to the Lakes States lumberjack, may be obtained from Mr. Sorden, 212 N. Allen Street, Madison, Wisconsin.

60 YEARS OF FORESTRY--Arthur Meyer, editor, JOURNAL OF FORESTRY, and Henry Clepper, executive secretary, Society of American Foresters, have been authorized to compile a book tentatively titled, "American Forestry - the First Sixty Years," to be published in connection with the sixtieth anniversary of SAF in 1960.

RETAIL HISTORY--The Briggs Lumber Company, Inc., Oneonta, New York, has compiled an illustrated, manuscript history of its seventy-four years in the retail lumber business. This history resulted when old pictures of the Oneonta yard were found in Weyerhaeuser files, and the suggestion was made to Mr. Roscoe Briggs that his company's story would add important insights into the history of retail lumbering.

IN THE FIELD--Bruce Harding has spent most of the past summer traveling in Wisconsin and Minnesota laying the groundwork for Forest History Committees in those states. He has visited local libraries, museums, and historical societies to examine their holdings of printed and manuscript materials, photographs, and museum objects related to forestry and forest industries history. Bruce also stopped at many of the lumber and pulp and paper companies, exploring their records holdings, and interest in their own records and history.

DUPLICATES AVAILABLE--The library of the Institute of Paper Chemistry wishes to clear its shelves of duplicate materials, primarily forestry and pulp and paper periodicals. Institutions wishing further information should write Eugene Bunker, The Library, Institute of Paper Chemistry, Box 498, Appleton, Wisconsin.

MAINE AGAIN--Another State of Mainer is delving into the state's forest industries' history. Vincent York, Phillips, is seeking material dealing with early operations in the Androscoggin or Richardson Lakes area.

CONSERVATION HISTORY--Dr. Lawrence Rakestraw, Northern Montana College, Havre, is working on a revision of his doctoral dissertation, "A History of Forest Conservation in the Pacific Northwest, 1891-1913." He is also interested in "Lightburning," and in the early career of E. T. Allen. (From FORESHADOW, March 1957)

GIFTS TO THE FHF LIBRARY--From Walter J. Damtoft, Champion Paper and Fibre Company, a file of the JOURNAL OF FORESTRY, 1917-1925.

American Paper and Pulp Association, complete file of COMMUNITY RELATIONS PROGRESS, March 1954 - September 1957.

Minnesota and Ontario Paper Company, 54 issues of THE MANDONIAN.

Wisconsin Conservation Department, copies of all of its "in-print" publications, including "History of State Forestry in Wisconsin" (42 p., mimeo.)

NEW BOOKS--Emanuel Fritz (comp.), CALIFORNIA COAST REDWOOD. San Francisco: Foundation for American Resource Management, 1957. Annotated bibliography.

HISTORIAE AGRICULTURAE, v. 1, 1950; v. 2, 1951; v. 3, 1952-1953. Groningen, The Netherlands: Het Nederlands Agronomisch-Historisch Institut, 1953, 1954, 1956. International bibliography (includes forestry).

Gordon Newell and Joe Williamson, PACIFIC TUGBOATS. Seattle: Superior Publishing Company, 1957.

A. R. Reynolds, THE DANIEL SHAW LUMBER COMPANY: A CASE STUDY OF THE WISCONSIN LUMBERING FRONTIER. New York: New York University Press, 1957. NYU Graduate School of Business Administration, Business History Series.

ARTICLES--J. Leonard Bates, Fulfilling American Democracy: The Conservation Movement, 1907-1921. THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY HISTORICAL REVIEW, June 1957.

Nollie W. Hickman, Logging and Rafting Timber in South Mississippi, 1840-1910. JOURNAL OF MISSISSIPPI HISTORY, July 1957.

Harold T. Pinkett, Gifford Pinchot at Biltmore. NORTH CAROLINA HISTORICAL REVIEW. July 1957.

Herman Work, Forests on the Old Fields. THE PAPER MAKER, Number 2, 1957.

BOOKLETS--J. H. Ainsworth, THE LOWER FOX: A RIVER OF PAPER. Kaukauna, Wisconsin: Thilmany Pulp & Paper Co., 1957.

C. Raymond Clar, FOREST USE IN SPANISH-MEXICAN CALIFORNIA. [Sacramento], California: Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry, 1957.

Vernon W. Roelofs, 50 COLORFUL YEARS. Appleton, Wisconsin: The Appleton Coated Paper Company, March 29, 1957.

Roelofs, 100 YEARS. [Oshkosh], Wisconsin: Paine Lumber Co., Ltd., 1953.

Karl E. Stansbury, THE FIRST SEVENTY YEARS. [Kaukauna], Wisconsin: Thilmany Pulp & Paper Company, [1953].

MANUSCRIPTS-- H. H. Chapman, Menominee Indian Timber Case.

Chapman, An Historical Account of the Two National Forests in Minnesota.

Charles S. Cowan, History of the Washington Forest Fire Association.

George B. Engberg, Men for the Pineries: Lumber Workers in the Lake States, 1830-1930. Revision of doctoral dissertation.

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